Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEGUCI 02499 142229Z

17
ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 SP-03 L-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00 STR-08

AGR-20 SWF-02 OPIC-12 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 IO-14

DRC-01 /134 W
---------- 032243
R 142150Z JUN 74
FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7340
INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEGUCIGALPA 2499

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ELAB, HO
SUBJECT: LABOR DEVELOPMENTS

REF: (A) TEGUCIGALPA 1840, (B) TEGUCIGALPA 2231,
(C) STATE 085401

SUMMARY: THERE HAS BEEN SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN STANDARD FRUIT AND ITS UNION, WITH ONLY FIVE CLAUSES UNRESOLVED. THE PROBLEMS IN LOVABLE BRA IN HONDURAS HAVE BEEN RENEWED BUT NO STRIKE ACTION IS PLANNED YET. APPROXIMATELY 800 GOVERNMENT EMPLOYED NURSES STRUCK FOR BETTER WAGES ON JUNE 13. HONDURAN BANANA WORKERS PARTICIPATED IN PANAMA CONFERENCE APRIL 28-30. SITRATERCO IS SUSPICIOUS OF MOTIVES OF PANAMANIAN GOVERNMENT. THE HEALTH OF OSCAR GALE CONTINUES TO BE POOR AND THERE IS A POSSIBILITY OF HIS RETIREMENT NEXT AUGUST. END SUMMARY.

1. LABOFF HAS BEEN INFORMED BY SITRATERCO SECGEN OBDULIO CACERES THAT STANDARD FRUIT AND ITS UNION, SUTRAFSCO, HAVE MADE EXCELLENT
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TEGUCI 02499 142229Z

PROGRESS IN THE FINAL CONCILLIATION STAGE OF NEGOTIATIONS. ONLY

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

FIVE OF THE ORIGINAL 28 CLAUSES REMAIN TO BE SETTLED. STILL UNRESOLVED

IS THE SALARY QUESTION BUT SUTRAFSCO PRESIDENT NAPOLEON ACEVEDO EX-
PRESSED CONFIDENCE OF SETTLEMENT WEEK OF JUNE 16 TO CACERES.

2. THE OLD PROBLEMS WITH LOVABLE BRA OF HONDURAS HAVE RESURFACED.
AFTER INITIAL COMPANY AGREEMENT TO REHIRE FIRED WORKERS, WORKERS
WERE CLOSED IN A STOREROOM AND NOT GIVEN WORK. ON JUNE 17 MANAGEMENT
GAVE WORKERS WHO HAD BEEN ORIGINALLY FIRED PLUS OTHER UNION MEMBERS
(NEW TOTAL 34) SUSPENSION SLIPS. MANAGEMENT CLAIMS THAT LACK OF
RAW MATERIALS IMPORTED FROM U.S. PARENT COMPANY IS FORCING LAYOFFS.
MANAGEMENT APPARENTLY BELIEVES THAT AFTER 120 DAY SUSPENSION WORKERS
CAN BE LEGALLY FIRED. FESITRANH PRESIDENT CELEO GONZALEZ SAYS THAT
FEDERATION IS NOT REVIVING GENERAL STRIKE THREAT AT THIS TIME,
BUT WILL FIRST FIGHT OUT QUESTION IN LABOR MINISTRY.

3. ON JUNE 13 APPROXIMATELY 800 GOVERNMENT EMPLOYED NURSES STRUCK
FOR HIGHER WAGES. VIRTUALLY ALL PUBLIC MEDICAL FACILITIES IN
TEGUCIGALPA ARE HIT AND STRIKE MAY SPREAD TO SAN PEDRO SULA.
ACTION FOLLOWED LONG PERIOD OF PETITIONING BY NURSES AND A FINAL
ULTIMATUM TO GOH.

4. SITRATERCO SECGEN OBDULIO CACRES ATTENDED REGIONAL CONFERENCE
OF BANANA WORKERS' UNIONS IN PANAMA WITH 14 OTHER HONDURAN REP-
RESENTATIVES APRIL 28-30. HE TOLD LABOFF THAT HIS IMPRESSIN WAS
THAT MEETING'S PURPOSE WAS TO ENLIST REGIONAL BANANA UNIONS IN SUPPORT

OF TORRIJOS' POSITION ON BANANA TAX. RE IDEA OF FORMING CENTRAL
AMERICAN BANANA WORKERS' FEDERATION, CACERES SAID THAT SITRATERCO
WOULD EXPECT TO PLAY LEADERSHIP ROLE AND WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IF
FEDERATION WOULD HAVE BASIC PURPOSE OF SUPPORTING CENTRAL AMERICAN
GOVERNMENTS' TAX POSITION. CACERES ADDED THAT PANAMIAN GOVERNMENT
PAID ENTIRE HOTEL BILL FOR HONDURAN DELEGATON.

5. CACERES ALSO SAID THAT HEALTH OF SITRATERCO PRESIDENT OSCAR
GALE CONTINUES TO BE POOR. HE CANCELLED PLANNED TRIP TO WASHINGTON
TO PARTICIPATE IN AIFLD BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING ON DOCTOR'S
ADVICE AND INSTEAD WENT TO A NEW ORLEANS CLINIC. CLINIC TOLD HIM
THAT ABSOLUTE REST WAS NECESSARY AND THAT HE WOULD NOT SURVIVE A
SECOND STROKE. UNITED FRUIT OFFICIAL TOLD LABOFF JUNE 13 THAT GALE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

HAD SAID HE WOULD RETIRE AT UNION'S UPCOMING AUGUST CONGRESS.
DAVIS

CONFIDENTIAL

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

NNN

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CLOTHING, LABOR UNIONS, LABOR DISPUTES, BANANAS, AGRICULTURAL WORKERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TEGUCI02499
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740155-0951
From: TEGUCIGALPA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740642/aaaabkaf.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: (A) TEGUCIGALPA 1840, (B) TEGUCIGALP, A 2231
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 SEP 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <14 FEB 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LABOR DEVELOPMENTS
TAGS: ELAB, HO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005